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Monitor Newsletter July 15, 1985

Bowling Green State University

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Monitor

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Bowling Green State University

July 15, 1985

New book examines attitudes of Americans toward wilderness

Wilderness — Is there intrinsic value in its mountains, forests and deserts, or does the value of its land lie in the potential for development?

Americans have wrestled with this question for most of the past 150 years. Beginning in the early 19th century, some saw it as a place to be preserved at all costs; others as a threat to civilization — an obstacle to progress and prosperity.

A Bowling Green assistant professor of English and American studies has been particularly intrigued by the wilderness controversy, devoting much of the last seven years to studying Americans' attitude toward the wilderness. In particular, he has examined attitudes toward the Adirondack Forest Preserve in upstate New York.

Phillip G. Terrie has published his findings in a new book, *Forever Wild: Environmental Aesthetics and the Adirondack Forest Preserve*, recently released by the Temple University Press. The book is part of a Temple series on "American Civilization."

Dr. Terrie describes his book as a cultural history, focusing on Americans' attitudes toward the Adirondacks where he has lived and worked periodically for the past 20 years. New York State, he noted, has the largest publicly owned wilderness area east of the Mississippi.

"I first saw that area in 1966," he said, "and I immediately fell in love with it." He spent six summers there as a camp counselor and for several years was assistant curator of the Adirondack Museum at Blue Mountain Lake.

His major discovery from paging

through hundreds of government documents, travel and sport narratives and annual reports of conservation agencies is that Americans' attitudes toward the Adirondack wilderness have been ambivalent throughout most of the past 150 years. From the early 19th century, "romantic" Americans viewed the wilderness as "a place to redeem their fallen souls," Dr. Terrie said. On the other hand, there were those who viewed the area as a threat to progress.

That kind of controversy subsided only when the lumbering industry began to threaten the watershed which fed the Erie Canal, Dr. Terrie said, noting that the canal was essential to furthering the New York economy at that time.

It was only then, at the very end of the 19th century, that New York State incorporated into its constitution an article which guarantees that "the lands of the state. . . constituting the forest preserve. . . shall be forever kept as wild forest lands."

Dr. Terrie noted that while that "forever wild" principle has been maintained in the state's constitution, attitudes toward the wilderness continued to change, eventually evolving to what he describes as the current "modern wilderness aesthetic" which is a blend of science and romanticism. In essence, he said, the wilderness today is viewed as a place where the scientific processes of nature should be allowed to proceed unhindered.

The 1964 Federal Wilderness Act reflects that attitude: "A wilderness, in contrast with those areas where man and his works dominate the landscape, is



Phillip G. Terrie

hereby recognized as an area where the earth and its community of life are untrammelled by man, where man himself is a visitor who does not remain."

Dr. Terrie noted that his book is a cultural history of values, perceptions and aesthetics relating to the environment, adding that environmental history is a growing field and that his findings in the Adirondack region are typical of national trends analyzed by other scholars.

He received his doctoral degree in American studies from George Washington University and has been teaching American literature and American studies at the University the past five years. Among his favorite courses are those on American wilderness and American nature writing.

New editor selected for Monitor



Paul E. Kostyu

Paul Kostyu, formerly a news bureau chief for The Greensboro News and Record in Greensboro, N.C., is the new editor of MONITOR.

Kostyu succeeds Linda Swaisgood who has edited the publication the past seven years and has accepted other assignments in the Office of Public Relations. All communications for the MONITOR should now be directed to Kostyu in the Office of Public Relations, 806 Administration Bldg., 372-2616. Swaisgood has moved to 516 Administration Bldg. and can be reached at 372-2716.

A graduate of Heidelberg College, Kostyu received a master's degree in popular culture from Bowling Green in 1981. He has held various news and editorial positions at The Greensboro News and Record the past seven years and was the area news editor at The Advertiser-Tribune in Tiffin from 1973-1978.

He has taught journalism at Heidelberg College and coached track and cross country at both Heidelberg and Tiffin University. In 1981-82 he studied at the University College of North Wales with a Rotary International Foundation Award for Journalism.

Test portends skills proficiency

New accounts of teachers who cannot spell correctly or write coherently probably represent a very small percentage of the nation's professional teaching corps, in the opinion of Fred L. Pigge, director of education research and services.

To test his theory, Dr. Pigge recently administered a basic skills test to 266 education majors at Bowling Green, with very positive results.

The students all were enrolled in the College of Education's introductory teacher-education course, "Exploring the Profession." Most were freshmen or sophomores.

According to Dr. Pigge, the test, constructed by McGraw Hill Publishing Co., was specially designed to test high school seniors who are planning to attend college.

"We chose this test because it is similar to, but more comprehensive than, the Pre-Professional Skills Test that many Ohio schools now require of their candidates for teaching positions," Dr. Pigge said. The test covers vocabulary, reading comprehension, spelling, grammar and mathematics.

When scores of the University students were compared to a national sampling of high school seniors planning to attend college, half of the University students scored at or above the national comparison group's 80th percentile — or better than 80 percent of all end-of-the-year high school seniors who took the test. Ninety-four percent of the Bowling Green students scored at or above the

50th percentile.

"Assuming that this group is representative of all teaching majors at Bowling Green, I would predict that better than 90 percent of our students would have no trouble at all passing the skills portion of the National Teacher Examination, the PPST or any other competency tests that the various states are using," Dr. Pigge said.

"It would seem that the basic skill proficiency of a typical BGSU education major is certainly higher than those education majors and teachers who have gained press notoriety for their lack of skills."

According to Sandra Packard, dean of the College of Education, an increasing number of Ohio schools are requiring candidates for teaching positions to take a basic skills test prior to their consideration for a teaching position.

"The PPST seems to be the most popular in our state, while others are requiring the National Teacher Examination," she said. "Our college faculty have serious concerns about the ability of a pencil and paper test to predict teaching success, but, at the same time, we want to ensure the American people that newly graduated teachers are competent and able in basic communication and computational skills and have a strong base of general knowledge. We are very pleased with the results of Dr. Pigge's study, which shows that the vast majority of our students are well versed in this knowledge."

Datebook

Monday, July 15

"John Gluckstadt," German film with English subtitles, 7:30 p.m., Gish Film Theater, Hanna Hall. Free.

"The Sound of Music," campus/community theater production, 8 p.m., July 15 and 16, Kobacker Hall, Moore Musical Arts Center. Tickets are priced at \$5, \$7 and \$9 for adults and \$3, \$5 and \$7 for students and senior citizens. Reservations can be made by calling 372-0171 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. weekdays.

Tuesday, July 16

"Crimes of the Heart," Huron Playhouse production, 8 p.m., July 16-20, Huron Playhouse, McCormick School, Huron. Tickets are priced at \$4 for adults and \$2 for children under 12. All seats are reserved. Reservations can be made by calling 433-4744.

Wednesday, July 17

"The Dining Room," University Theater production, 8 p.m., July 17-20, Joe E. Brown Theater, University Hall. Tickets are priced at \$1.50 and will be available at the door beginning at 7 p.m. on performance nights. There are no reserved seats.

Rec Center plans Summerfest/cookout

The staff of the Student Recreation Center plans to hold a Summerfest/cookout for SRC members, friends and family.

The cookout will be held Monday, July 22, from 5:30 to 8 p.m. at the Andrews Pool patio. Admission is \$1 per person and registrations should be made at the SRC main office from July 15 to 19. Musical entertainment at the event will be provided by the DePue Family from 6 to 7 p.m.

Volleyball and water games will be included in the festivities.

COMMENCEMENT ORDERS DUE

Faculty and staff who intend to participate in the August commencement exercises should place an order now at the University Bookstore for commencement regalia.

Orders may be phoned to the bookstore at 372-2851.

There will be a \$5 late fee for all orders placed after Aug. 2.

Faculty/Staff Positions

The following faculty positions are available:

Accounting and MIS: Assistant/associate professor. Contact Park Leathers (2-2767). Deadline: July 29, 1985.

Communications Disorders: Assistant/associate professor. Contact Herbert Greenberg (2-2515). Deadline: July 25, 1985.

Firelands: Instructor/assistant professor, mathematics. Contact Office of the Dean (93-229). Deadline: July 17, 1985.

Firelands: Instructor/assistant professor, applied science. Contact Office of the Dean (93-229). Deadline: July 22, 1985.

Health and Human Services: Acting associate dean. Contact Clyde Willis (2-0242). Deadline: July 15, 1985.

History: Visiting assistant professor. Contact chair, department of history (2-2030). Deadline: Oct. 1, 1985.

Library: Coordinator of library user education. Contact chair, information services (2-2362). Deadline: Aug. 1, 1985.

Special Education: Instructor. Contact: Edward D. Fiscus (2-0151). Deadline: Aug. 5, 1985.

Technology: Associate or full professor, construction technology. Contact Rod Colgan (2-2436). Deadline: Nov. 8, 1985. Also, assistant/associate professor, construction technology. Contact Colgan. Deadline: July 26, 1985. Also, assistant/associate professor, architectural design/construction technology. Contact Ernest Ezell (2-2436). Deadline: July 26, 1985.

The following administrative staff positions are available:

Athletics: Assistant athletic trainer. Contact Bill Jones (2-2401). Deadline: Aug. 2, 1985.

Auxiliary Support Services: Associate director of auxiliary support services. Contact Susan Caldwell, administrative staff personnel services (2-2558). Deadline: July 22, 1985.

Ice Arena: Assistant manager. Contact Greg Jordan (2-2264). Deadline: July 19, 1985.

Student Health Center: Medical office assistant (two positions). Contact Susan Caldwell (2-2558). Deadline: July 17, 1985.

In Brief

PROGRAMMING HELP AVAILABLE

If you have computer software needs but don't have the time, money or skills to develop your own programs, the computer science department may be able to help.

A senior/graduate level course in software development will be taught during the fall semester by the department. As part of the course, teams of students will be asked to design and develop software packages for outside users. The instructors are now soliciting actual software projects from the University community as possible assignments for the course.

For further information contact David Chilson, Walter Maner or Barbee Mynatt at 372-2337.

3,300 freshmen expected

The University will continue to accept applications from prospective freshmen for the fall semester until July 29, according to John W. Martin, admissions.

Martin said more than 8,100 prospective students have sought admission to the University for the fall term. A freshman class of 3,300 is anticipated when classes begin next month.

Applications from transfer students requiring on-campus housing are no longer being accepted. Transfer students eligible to live off campus may still apply.

Once admissions are closed on July 29, prospective students will have the option to either apply for fall admission at the Firelands campus or to request admission on the main campus for the spring semester which will begin in January 1986.

Obituaries

Louise Rees, 76, professor emerita of library and educational media, died July 1 in Ann Arbor, Mich.

She joined the faculty as chair of the department of library science in 1964, remaining as chair until 1974 and retiring in 1976. It was during her term as chair that the department was renamed the department of library and educational media in 1971.

Rees was a resident of Bowling Green until the time of her death.

Sara J. Neal, 52, a part-time employee of the Office of Registration and Records, died July 7 in Toledo.

She joined the office in September 1980 to assist during the drop/add periods of registration.

Surviving are her husband, Arthur G., sociology, and two children at home.

Departments name chairs

Several new department chairs have been appointed within the College of Business Administration for the 1985-86 academic year.

David Hyslop, business education, has assumed the chair of that department following the retirement of Mearl Guthrie, who had served as chair since 1957.

In the department of management, Chan Hahn has returned from leave, replacing acting chair Peter Pinto.

Also, LTC John Debay has replaced LTC Carl Chaboudy as chair of the department of military science.

In the College of Education, Deanna J. Radeloff has been appointed acting chair of the department of home economics, effective July 1. Dr. Radeloff succeeds Elsa McMullen who is returning to full-time teaching.

FEE WAIVER FORMS DUE

Employees are reminded by the Office of the Bursar that Dependent/Employee Fee Waiver forms for the fall semester should be completed and forwarded as soon as possible.

The fall term begins Aug. 28.

Employment Opportunities

CLASSIFIED EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

* Indicates that an internal candidate from the department is bidding and being considered for the position.

NEW VACANCIES

Posting Expiration Date for Employees to Apply: 5 p.m. Monday, July 22, 1985

7-22-1 **Clerical Specialist**
Pay Range 25
College of
Technology/Cooperative
Education
Permanent part-time

7-22-2 **Clerk 2**
Pay Range 3
Registration and Records
Permanent part-time

7-22-3 **Custodial Worker**
Pay Range 2
7-22-4 **Plant Operations and Maintenance**
Two full-time positions

7-22-5 **Data Entry Operator 1**
Pay Range 3
7-22-14 **Registration and Records**
10 six-month, part-time positions

7-22-15 **Food Service Manager 1**
Pay Range 27
University Food Operations

7-22-16 **Nurse 1**
Pay Range 29
Student Health Center
Nine-month, full time

7-22-17 **Typist 2**
Pay Range 4
BGSU Popular Press
Permanent part-time

CONTINUING VACANCIES

Posting Expiration Date for Employees to Apply: 5 p.m. Monday, July 15, 1985

7-15-1 **Clerk 1**
Pay Range 2
Program Advisement/College of
Technology
Temporary part-time to May 16,
1986

7-15-2 **Custodial Worker**
Pay Range 2
Plant Operations and
Maintenance

7-15-3 **Program Analyst 1**
Pay Range 28
Computer Services

7-15-4 **Secretary 1**
Pay Range 26
Environmental Services